

Remarks. The applicants hereby request entry of the present amendment and reconsideration of the claims. Claims 1, 18, 19 and 22-38 are pending. Each amended and new claim has written support in the specification; accordingly, no new matter has been added to the application.

Written support for amended claim 1 appears in the specification, for example, at claim 16, as filed; page 69, lines 1-5; and page 92, lines 13-17. The remaining claim amendments make only minor, formal changes that add no new matter.

Written support for new claim 32 appears in the specification, for example, at page 52, line 21 to page 53, line 12.

Written support for new claims 33 and 34 appears in the specification, for example, at page 52, line 21 to page 53, line 12; claims 16 and 18, as filed; and page 92, lines 13-17.

Written support for new claim 35 appears in the specification, for example, at page 34, lines 14-15.

Written support for new claim 36 appears in the specification, for example, at page 37, lines 5-8.

Written support for new claims 37 and 38 appears in the specification, for example, at page 36, lines 30-32.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112(¶2). Claims 1, 15, 16, 18, 19 and 22-31 stand rejected as allegedly being indefinite. The examiner took the position that the claims are not clear since the claim is directed to a method of treatment whereas an administration step is not recited. The examiner suggested that inclusion of such a step would render the claim definite. Applicants point out that the amended claims include an administration step. Withdrawal of the rejection is appropriate. The applicants hereby request withdrawal of the rejection.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112(1). Claim 15 stands rejected for allegedly not complying with the enablement requirement. This rejection is moot since claim 15 has been cancelled. The applicants hereby request withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 1, 16, 18, 19 and 22-31 stand rejected as allegedly not complying with the enablement requirement. The rejection of claim 16 is moot since this claim has been cancelled. The examiner took the position that the claims are not enabled because (i) the specification teaches treatment of inflammation in the small intestine but allegedly does not teach treatment of inflammation in the colon; whereas the claims cover treatment of both types of inflammation and (ii) the specification does not teach treatment of inflammation with antibodies other than those that bind to residues 1-127 of SEQ ID NO: 4. Specifically, the examiner stated that the claims read on methods wherein an antibody that binds to a polypeptide other than one comprising residues 1-127 of SEQ ID NO: 4 are covered. Applicants submit that the rejection should be withdrawn from the claims, as amended.

Applicants point out that the examiner's first ground for rejecting the claims is moot since amended claim 1 recites a method for treating an inflammatory response in the small intestine. Applicants also point out that the examiner's second ground for rejection of the claims is moot since amended claim 1 clearly indicates that the antibody or fragment binds to amino acids 1-127 of SEQ ID NO: 4. Specifically, amended claim 1 states that the antibody or fragment "binds specifically to an epitope in a polypeptide which epitope consists of amino acids Gln1 to Leu127 of SEQ ID NO: 4". The applicants hereby request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections.

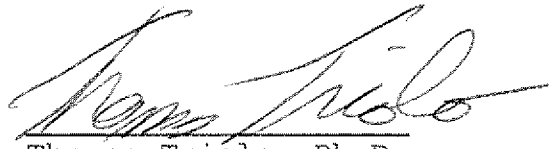
Conclusion:

The claims are in condition for passage to allowance.
Such action is earnestly solicited.

The examiner is invited to contact the undersigned
should there be any outstanding questions or concerns
regarding the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 10, 2007

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Thomas Triolo", written over a horizontal line.

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